



CANNON BUILDING
861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEPHONE: (302) 744-4500
FAX: (302) 739-2712
WEBSITE: WWW.DPR.DELAWARE.GOV

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

**ADVANCED PRACTICE COMMITTEE Minutes
(Approved August 28, 2012)**

The Advanced Practice Committee held a meeting on July 31, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Conference Room A, Cannon Building, in Dover.

PRESENT: Ron Castaldo, Leslie Verucci, JoAnn Baker, Cindy Cunningham, Sandy Elliott, Jean Gallagher, Candace Sandal, Megan Williams, Allen Prettyman, Cindy Drew, Robert McKennett, Delphos Price

ABSENT: Lucille Gambardella

GUESTS: Al Sandal

PRESIDING: Delphos Price

STAFF: Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing
Sheryl Paquette, Administrative Specialist III

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Price called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes from the May 22, 2012 meeting, as well as three town hall meeting minutes, were reviewed. Ms. Gallagher made a motion to accept all of the minutes, seconded by Ms. Elliott. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Price made a motion to modify the agenda. Under new business (4.0) he added the Journal of Nursing Regulation article (4.1) that was emailed to everyone for review. Ms. Drew made a motion to accept the agenda as amended and Ms. Verucci seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Outcomes of Town Hall Meetings

Dr. Prettyman said he was impressed at the amount of people who attended the meetings and he was happy with the positive responses received. The breakdown of attendees was 21 – Terry Campus, 20 – Owen's campus, and 63 – Stanton campus, for a total of 104 attendees. Dr. Prettyman said he gave the same presentation to the Delaware Coalition of NP's, and has been asked to give it at the DNA conference in October.

Dr. Prettyman said for the most part, attendees wanted to know how this would affect them, and questioned the grandfathering issue. He said they asked questions like, "What's going to happen

if forget to renew my license; where am I going to be with this?" He said he didn't get any negative responses; in fact, some actually said, "It's about time" regarding the training. Ms. Drew was curious about the makeup of the 104 attendees and Dr. Prettyman said it was a diverse group, but mostly APN's. Most of the nurses with questions were 'outliers' in the 13 different categories, particularly CNS licensees who were the most concerned. Ms. Verucci agreed and stated she directed one CNS to contact Dr. Zickafoose about questions and concerns regarding her degree and certification.

Mr. Price asked if anyone has received any questions from any colleagues at work. He said a presentation was given to the CRNA group at Christiana. Afterward he received a phone call from one of the CRNA's who attended stating that the language used in the presentation was confusing. Mr. Price said it seems some of the terminology was incorrect and he wanted to make everyone aware of this. Mr. Castaldo stated there were questions during the presentation related to the DNP and PhD as a requirement for licensure. Ms. Verucci suggested putting FAQ's on the website and the committee members agreed it is a good idea. Mr. Prettyman said FAQ's are in the toolbox and we could review them and make them more specific for Delaware.

Ms. Gallagher inquired about the CNS concerns. Ms. Verucci said she feels the biggest concern comes from the CNS nurses at Bayhealth and CCHS. She said they are very limited in the exams they can take to be certified, and the fear is that they will become more limited with availability of exams. Dr. Prettyman said job security for the CNS role is of concern. Mr. McKennett added that CNS roles are not being utilized as intended and agreed there is confusion about the CNS role. Dr. Prettyman said there was a lot of money granted for NP education to go to the hospitals from a GNE grant for preceptors. Ms. Verucci said she believes they are now looking for more NP's in some of the critical care areas to help with the hospital groups.

Dr. Prettyman said another concern circulating at the meetings is the role definition between acute care and primary care. Two nurses at the Stanton meeting inquired and Ms. Verucci said she could not find anything about that issue. Dr. Prettyman said the only thing he could find was that NONPF (Nursing Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties) who wrote a paper about this. There was a question whether CMS has a requirement that if you work in a hospital setting you are required to be acute care certified, even if you're not in the ICU's. Members did not know where this was coming from. Mr. Price added that Linda Jones, a VP at Christiana, was at the meeting and said she knows nothing about this, so it is not something mandatory at Christiana. Someone at the meeting said Bayhealth is requiring it. Mr. McKennett said they have 9 CNS positions open and they are not using the role of CNS as intended as a resource person to the patients and their families, and as a provider of education for the staff and others in a particular clinical area. Most APNs who go back to school are opting for the NP role. Mr. McKennett added the Bayhealth medical group is hiring Nurse Practitioners but they do not work in the hospitals. They have been unable to hire CNS prepared nurses.

Ms. Elliott asked about the number of people who attended the presentations compared to the total number of APNs in Delaware. Dr. Zickafoose said there were 1193 APN's including 732 Nurse Practitioners, 300 CRNA's, 32 Nurse midwives, and 129 CNS's. Ms. Verucci said Dr. Prettyman gave a wonderful presentation at the Town Hall Meetings. Everyone formally thanked Dr. Prettyman for giving the presentations.

Ms. Verucci stated she wanted to meet with Senator Hall-Long and Representative Walker to educate them regarding the Consensus Model. She also stated she has a contact who is a lobbyist and there is a large need for education since the physician assistants have rallied the physicians group. Ms. Elliott questioned whether there was funding for a lobbyist. Members

discussed the costs of a lobbyist and some members agreed a lobbyist was needed while others disagreed. Ms. Gallagher stated lobbyists know the statute and legislative ropes while Ms. Elliott added a lobbyist helps with the opposition. Ms. Sandal commented she was not sure if we needed a lobbyist. All agreed that funding might be an issue. Mr. McKennett stated professional specialty organizations may have funding available and Mr. Castaldo added the CRNA's have a lobbyist who he would contact for the next meeting. Ms. Verucci will contact Debbie Hamilton and inquire about her costs. Mr. McKennett added we need to hire a respected lobbyist, perhaps we should ask Senator Hall-Long and Representative Walker about it, and he questioned how North Dakota paid for their lobbyist. Dr. Zickafoose will ask Ms. Kalanek at the NCSBN Annual meeting. Mr. Price suggested a lawyer who is a lobbyist in Dover and Ms. Elliott stated she might be expensive. Ms. Baker suggested roundtable networking discussions at the DNA conference as a way to educate and request financial support.

Mr. Price added that Senator Blevins is also a supporter of Nursing and all groups of people need to be educated about the model. Dr. Zickafoose stated she was presenting the Consensus Model at the DPR Senior Leadership meeting on August 13, 2012 to educate them about the model and to get feedback from the Executive Directors of Medicine and Pharmacy. Ms. Verucci stated Mr. Dryden has been very supportive in their Drug Overdose meetings. Members brainstormed where education should be provided and discussed the need to speak at the Medical Society of DE (Randeep Kahlon), the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (Karol Rattay), and with legislators.

Mr. Castaldo commented about the NCSBN television ads being effective and suggested writing an article in the DNA Reporter as a follow-up to the Town Hall meetings. Ms. Gallagher and Ms. Drew agreed with his comments and suggested adding the FAQs. Ms. Verucci stated there was an article published last year so she would resurrect it and share with Dr. Prettyman for updating.

Overdose Prescription Committee

Ms. Verucci reported the committee is making progress and looking at what other states have implemented. No provider is prescribing over a 72 hour dose of narcotics and the ERs are also limiting doses. The concern is that some providers will not prescribe any pain medication at all. The committee is considering requiring narcotic CE as a requirement for relicensure or CSR renewal. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline is designing a chronic pain management protocol and APNs will be included when this is presented to physicians. Ms. Baker added the state is working on an injury prevention program and the CDC has selected unintentional drug abuse and overuse as a top priority. Providers continue to write prescriptions for narcotics month after month. Ms. Verucci stated the DE Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) has been initiated so pharmacies and providers can monitor narcotic prescribing and use. APNs can also get approved to participate in the PMP – they need to contact Ms. Verucci for information. Ms. Cunningham added that primary care providers are not writing scripts for Adderall and other psychiatric medications; instead they are coming to the psychiatric providers. Ms. Verucci stated providers need to know that as long as a medication prescription is justified, it is alright to prescribe it; however, it is not acceptable to write a narcotic script for yourself or a family member.

Section 8 Rules and Regulations & Statute

No update at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Journal of Nursing Regulation Article

Mr. Price commented the article shows this committee is on track but it is a slow process. The article also discussed the usefulness of a lobbyist which the committee discussed previously. Mr. Castaldo

stated although North Dakota is a very different state from Delaware, the APN numbers are similar. He stated that Bethany Hall-Long gives a lecture at UD about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the disparaging numbers for access to care in DE particularly in Sussex County. He will request the statistics from Dr. Hall-Long for the next meeting to share with the group.

OTHER BUSINESS (for discussion only):

Dr. Zickafoose reported that CCHS will be holding a Pharmacology Update for Advanced Practice Clinicians on March 15, 2013 so mark your calendars.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEXT MEETING – August 28, 2012 at 6 p.m., Room 259, McDowell Hall, University of DE in Newark.

The next meeting should include the statistics from the ACA, lobbyist information, dates for presentations to hospitals and assignments, (Ms. Williams is going to Beebe in August, Ms. Verucci-CCHS, Mr. McKennett-Bayhealth, Ms. Gallagher-Al DuPont). Members agreed to accomplish this education by the end of October.

Future meeting dates were discussed. Standing meetings of the APN committee will be the last Tuesday of each month at 6 PM rotating between Dover and Newark. Dr. Prettyman will secure rooms at UD and Dr. Zickafoose will secure rooms at DPR for future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Price thanked all members for attending and complimented members for their knowledge and expertise. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela C. Zickafoose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pamela C. Zickafoose, EdD, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CNE
Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing